

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge that pending claims 55, 57, 58 and 61–64 are allowed and prosecution on the merits is closed. Therefore, the application is in condition for allowance except for the formal matter of updating the status of the U.S. patent applications cited throughout the specification. Applicants respectfully submit the amendments as set forth above to identify the status of the U.S. patent applications cited in the specification. In view of the above amendments, Applicants submit that the above-noted formal objection has been obviated. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned attorney if there are any questions prior to allowance of this matter.

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Respectfully submitted,



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